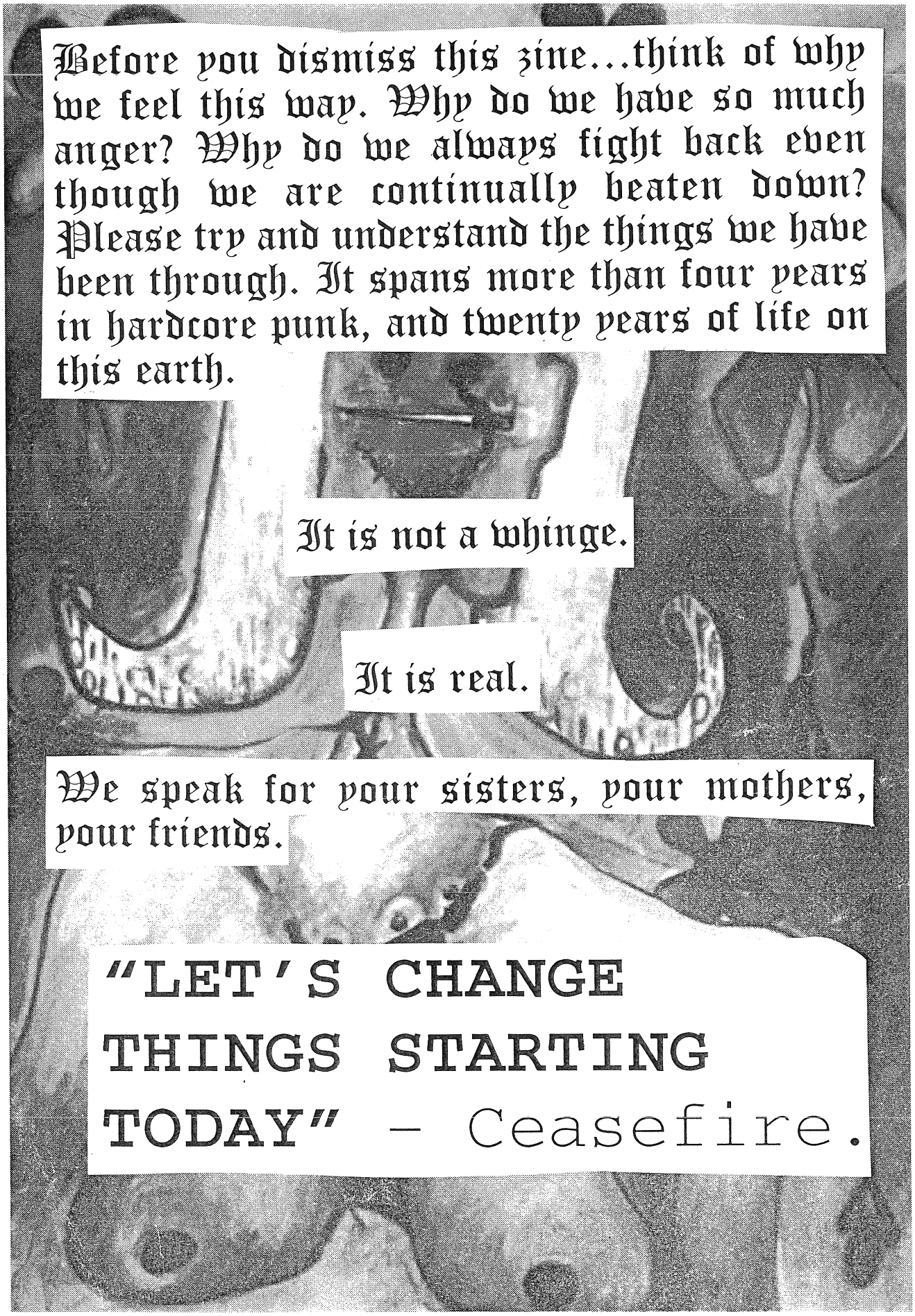
NO APOLOGIES

From Sister, *the Newspaper of the Los Angeles Women's Center (July 1973)*


Before you dismiss this zine...think of why we feel this way. Why do we have so much anger? Why do we always fight back even though we are continually beaten down? Please try and understand the things we have been through. It spans more than four years in hardcore punk, and twenty years of life on this earth.
It is not a whinge.
It is real.
We speak for your sisters, your mothers, your friends.
"LET'S CHANGE THINGS STARTING TODAY" - Ceasefire.

Welcome to no Apologies. Thankyou to all the people who take time to read, question and respond to this with an open mind. Every piece within these pages was written for a reason, not to whinge, cry, or indoctrinate, but because someone feels the issue to be important.
Respect our right to free speech. I am not asking for your agreeance but I am also not asking for your ridicule. As most of you may know there are reasons why I choose not to be involved in the scene anymore. This choice is the result of built up anger.
These are my words, these are my thoughts, these are my opinions. I will have my say.

XKIRSTYX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Often people wound others where, or close to where they have been wounded themselves. They are so preoccupied with their own wounds and with not healing those wounds, that they ignore the wounds they have inflict upon others, and react to suffering by causing and contributing to the suffering of others instead of experiencing it and learning from it.

Our culture teaches us suffering, it makes us suffer in many ways, but our culture does not teach us how to overcome suffering. Our culture does not teach us how to deal with suffering. Instead it teaches us to deny our own suffering, to be silent about our own suffering, and how to inflict our own suffering upon others. It tells us that self denial and projection are normal ways to deal with problems, when these are in fact mechanisms that prevent us from dealing with problems.

Sickness is often the result of suffering, it may come from being the victim of suffering, and/or inflicting suffering. Sickness comes in many forms, social, psychological and physical. All forms of sickness are related. Social sickness is a sickness present in the psyches of many individuals, social sickness is opression. Social sickness becomes psychological when you internalise it, when you become the oppressor and when you fail to recognise your own oppression. It's there when one finds it 'funny' to violate another humyn being in any way, 'No one who feels secure in themselves as a person would put such an emphasis on the non-personhood and the unworthiness of another.'[Walker Alice, **The Temple Of My Familiar**.]

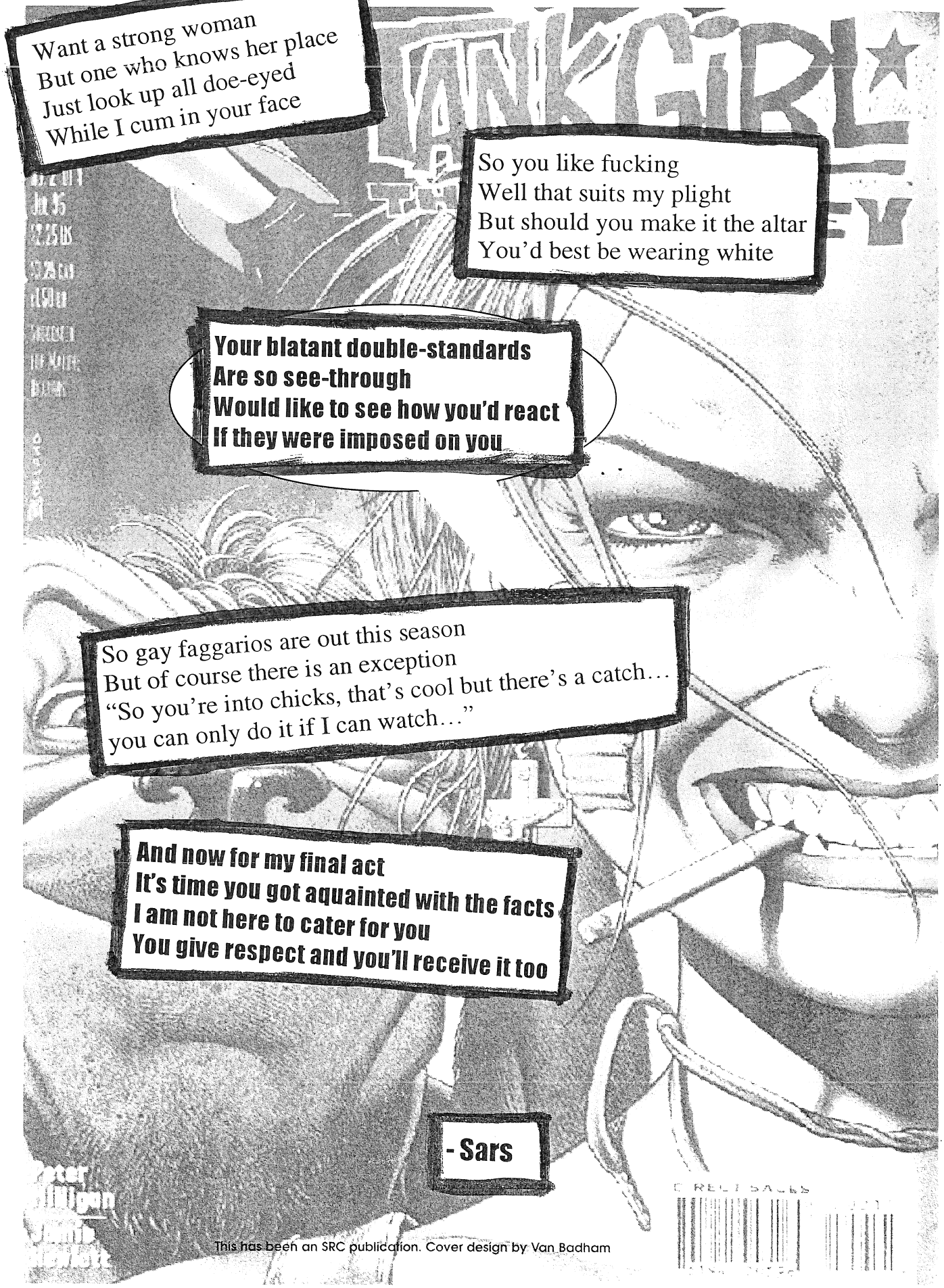
It's a common humyn reaction to react to abuse by becoming the abusers, to react to domination by finding new ways to dominate. To react to suffering by causing the suffering of others. We have learnt that it is okay to do this. Perhaps you have been treated like you treat others, but that's not an excuse. You have failed to make the connection between the way you treat others, and what people have put you through. It's not okay to do this. To be **truly** 'hardcore' to be **truly** 'punk rock' would mean dealing with abuse and ceasing being an abuser. This hurts, but it hurts much more when it's ignored. Pain **never** goes away when it is pushed away.

I thought hardcore rejected this apathy to suffering. I was wrong. Sometimes people become so engrossed with the 'scene', so distant from the outside world, that they forget why they came to hardcore in the first place, and become oblivious to everyday oppressions. The 'scene' has alienated itself from the rest of society and in the process has formed another miniature society reflecting and exhibiting so many of the traits that people claim they are fighting against.

I have nothing to be sorry for and for this I make no apologies to anyone. If your feeling guilty, this is about you, and the contradictions I see.

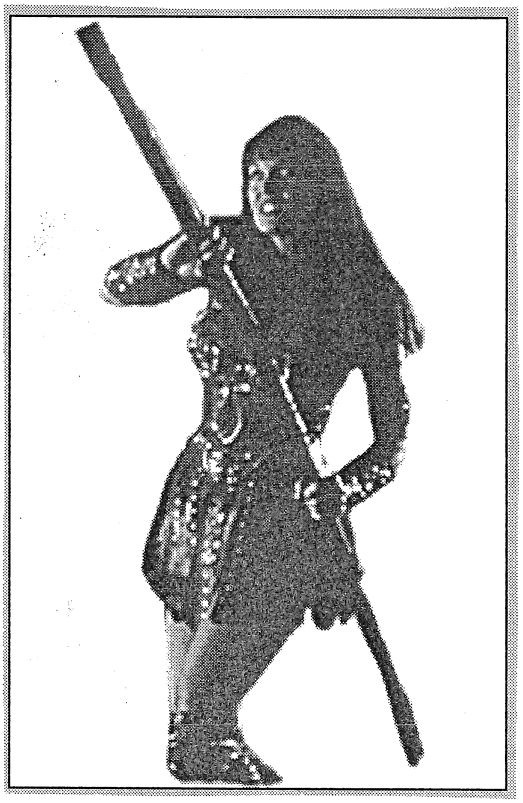
Please learn from the mistakes of others, don't repeat them.

MichelleXXX

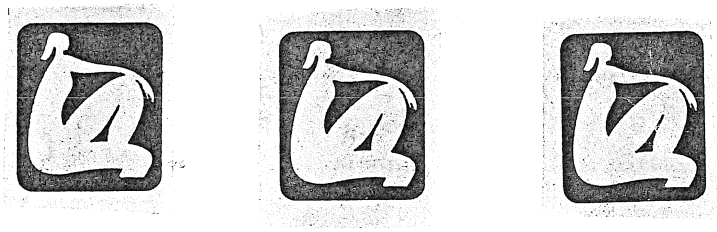

Want a strong woman
But one who knows her place
Just look up all doe-eyed
While I cum in your face
So you like fucking
Well that suits my plight
But should you make it the altar
You'd best be wearing white
Your blatant double-standards
Are so see-through
Would like to see how you'd react
If they were imposed on you
So gay faggarios are out this season
But of course there is an exception
"So you're into chicks, that's cool but there's a catch...
you can only do it if I can watch..."
And now for my final act
It's time you got aquainted with the facts
I am not here to cater for you
You give respect and you'll receive it too
- Sars
This has been an SRC publication. Cover design by Van Badham

I call it harassment, I call it crossing the line, They call it humour, They call it a joke
You can call it whatever you want.
Hardcore, through my 15-year-old eyes appeared to be a place free of judgement, ridicule, separation and torment. It seemed like my little utopian society, where I was no longer the "weird one", where people thought, questioned and took action.
Straight edge was a label for the lifestyle I had already chosen- hardcore drew me in and embraced me. I felt at home.
For a long time my thoughts on hardcore were nothing but positive ones and maybe back then everything was good, but as time went on cracks appeared in the surface and I chose to ignore them. I couldn't accept that unity, expression and open mindedness were things we spoke or sung about yet never really existed. So we went on striving for a better scene hoping for the best. Even until a few months ago I remained positive, I thought I was a positive person, but now I think it was all just wishful thinking.
The past year has been hell for me. My hardcore world came crashing down around me because for the first time in my life I was subjected to harassment cruelty and fear and it was the hardcore scene behind it.
With all this talk of equal rights, equal hits, you would think that sexism would have no place in hardcore, but unfortunately this couldn't be further from the truth.
All is fine if you dress and act like a male, deny your femininity and you'll fit in Wear a skirt and all of a sudden you are a bimbo desperately trying to seduce all of the boys- this is ridiculous. Did anyone think that none of you are even worth seducing.
On the other end of the scale females in hardcore are subjected to endless sexual comments. The size of my breasts, length of my legs and past sexual experience has nothing to do with anyone but myself. Yet often these were the most favoured topics of conversation even in my presence. I can finally say that I don't deserve to be treated like this
I AM NOT A BLOKE, I AM NOT A WOOZER, I AM NOT YOUR SEX OBJECT, I AM A PERSON
Tell me that sexism doesn't exist, block it out of your mind, deny what your friends are like, keep it all quiet. Maybe one day something will happen to a girl, you may learn to believe her and then you may be able to accept the truth.
Homophobia is just like any other form of bigotry. People can never admit they are prejudice. They cover it up by saying its joke. Underlying is the hatred and disgust in those who are the minority. To use the words gay or lesbian as an insult is both degrading and disrespectful to those who are homosexual.
I was called a lesbian in front of a group of people who know full well I am heterosexual, it was supposed to be a joke, but the tome of voice and choice of words were not at all laughable. Every person knew it yet each stood in silence. Its fine to sing songs about how terrible homophobia is but when the opportunity arises to deal with a homophobe they clam up in fear
YOU HYPOCRITE!
What happened to the days when attached to hardcore flyers was that all familiar caption 'no racist, sexist, or homophobic bands.

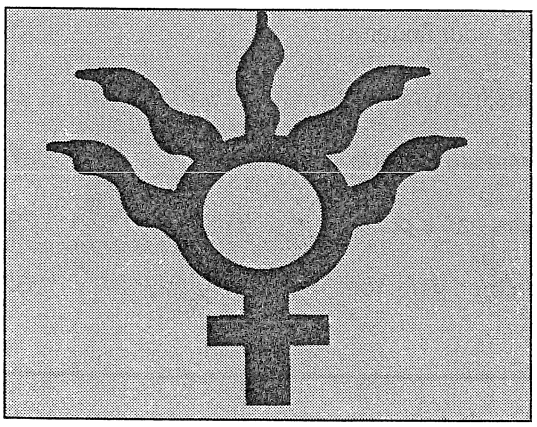
It may be only a few people in the scene that wreak it for the rest but for me it is more than that . It is the weakness of most people , the complacency and apathy and the fear of standing apart from the rest. I cant live in silence, silence is accepting the world around you, hardcore is not silence yet our scene is. So call me a flake, call me a sell out, call me a yuppie, I may not be punk rock but I AM HARDCORE. I might not go to shows but it doesn't change my love for hardcore music and the ideals surrounding it. I have just decided that our scene wont change until every individual uses there own voice, it wont change until be recognise that hardcore here is not the utopian society we are all supposed to be craving for, infact it is the exact reflection of the very thing we say we oppose.
So I walk away in hope of living a more hardcore existence because what the NSW scene is, is not hardcore, it is THE JOKE!!!



Some people change it's a well known fact,
Some people stay the same,
You were always a dirty pervert,
I just didn't see it.



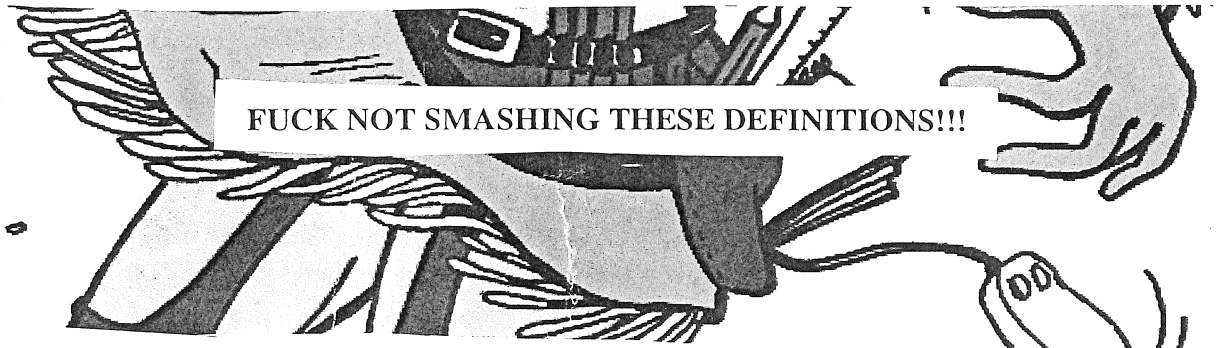
Objectify any feeling of desire.
Expressed through talk, masturbation, pornography.
Deny love, and desire for affection.
Hide your natural human emotions.
Let yourself open behind closed doors.
Call females 'brother' with your peers.
I will not ignore my need for love.
I do not deny myself my feelings.
One-day you may realise its importance.
Love is not 'weakness'. It is **strength**.
Admit yourself truth.



Kirsty
14/45 Macdonald St
Erskineville 2043

Sugar and Spice and all things nice.
That's what little girls are made of...

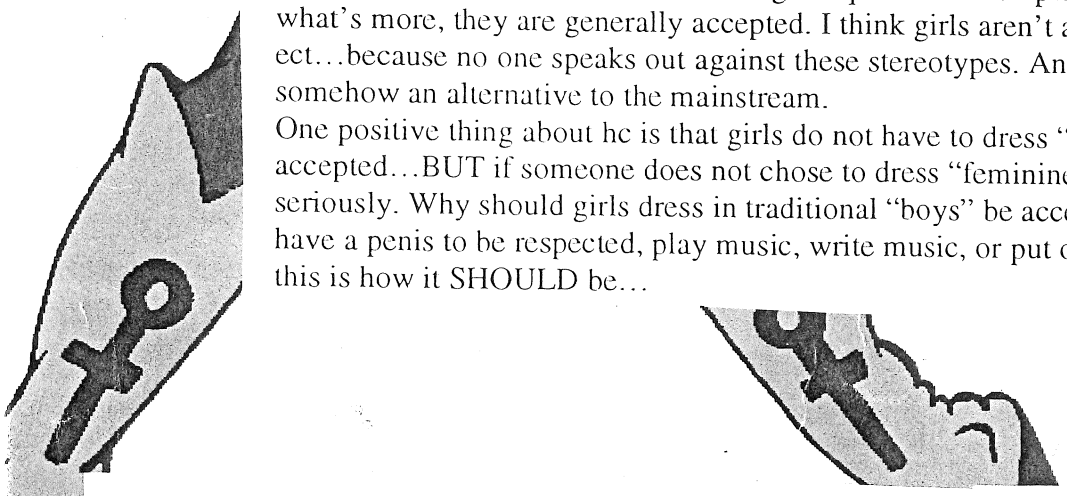
As we grow, we learn certain ways to behave as girls or boys. We learn that certain things are "ok" for boys, but not "ok" for girls and vice versa. We learn what to wear, how to act, ect. The forces that patrol these norms are not completely obvious, yet the message is crystal clear. Even if we reject these norms, they are so overwhelming that they can usually be seen (however slightly) in everyone. We bring them with us everywhere we go – including when we get involved in hardcore. We learn from society that playing guitar, bass or drums is a "boys" activity, we learn that being rough (ie. In the pit) is not a "girls" activity...



FUCK NOT SMASHING THESE DEFINITIONS!!!

This 'scene' we have here does nothing to squash these stupid patriarchal definitions, what's more, they are generally accepted. I think girls aren't as confident to be in bands ect...because no one speaks out against these stereotypes. And I thought this was somehow an alternative to the mainstream.

One positive thing about hc is that girls do not have to dress "femininely" to be accepted...BUT if someone does not chose to dress "femininely" they aren't taken seriously. Why should girls dress in traditional "boys" be accepted?? You don't have to have a penis to be respected, play music, write music, or put on shows ect. OR, at least this is how it SHOULD be...



Sophie sjp05@uow.edu.au

Thanks to: Michelle Laxton (one of the most inspiration feminist womyn in my life...my mum), Maya Angelou, Natasha Stott-Depoja, and all those I am proud to call my friends.

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SEXISM IN HARDCORE

For all you guys and even some girls out there that pretend that the above statement doesn't exist in hardcore then you should wake up to the real deal. First, listen closely to how this zine will be received by some... they will call it 'whinging' a socially ascribed gender role for a female. Or P.C, the newest uncool fad in the world of hardcore. People will say that all the girls doing this zine are just insecure, perhaps even jealous, a couple of them lesbians (because they don't bow dow to the 'men' who run the scene) and who knows, maybe we'll be granted with the honour of being 'bitches', 'sluts' or other words used for centuries to bring strong females down.

To pretend that sexism does not exist in the hardcore scene is being downright blind. You think that because you are friends with a girl into hardcore (usually one of your mate's girlfriends), think that it's cool that some are in a band and 'having a go' that you have abolished any sort of sexism in the scene. Hey, you even think some of them are cute! Well, I hate to break it to you, but *sexism is so ingrained in our scene that many females can not even be a part of it.* They thought hardcore was a place to get away from all the shit guys in society give us, (you know, being punk it's against society and everything). I have heard of guys in hardcore rating hardcore girls on their looks, breast size, having little fantasies about how they want to have sex with them (in gross ways), basically treating girls in hardcore like their own little pin up girls. Well you fucked up neanderthals, that's not what any girl in hardcore is here for. If a hardcore girl is pretty, so fucken what. She is not here for your pleasure, she's not here to be watched to see if her tits bounce when she dances, she is here for the music.

I know not all guys are like this...but the sad truth is, some of them are. And many of them are the older crew who dictate to new kids in the scene about 'how to be hardcore'. And follwing their example of sexism is something I hope to god the younger kids are smart enough to see past. (And most of them are! I find it very amusing I can have intellectual conversations with 16 year olds and have guys my age or older get defensive or brush it off when I mention the word 'feminism'.) But even if the younger kids don't follow their lead, the fact remains that sexism in hardcore makes it very uncomforable to be a female at a show. I mean, being judged on your looks and measurements is something I try and avoid for fear that people forget I am a human being with a soul and mind. I am glad that some females are accepted as hardcore persons and not seen as objects... but like I said, it's usually because they are your mate's girlfriends or friends and you are too scared to. And maybe because you tried not to see them as objects, you found out they weren't! They were actually pretty cool people with intelligent things to say.

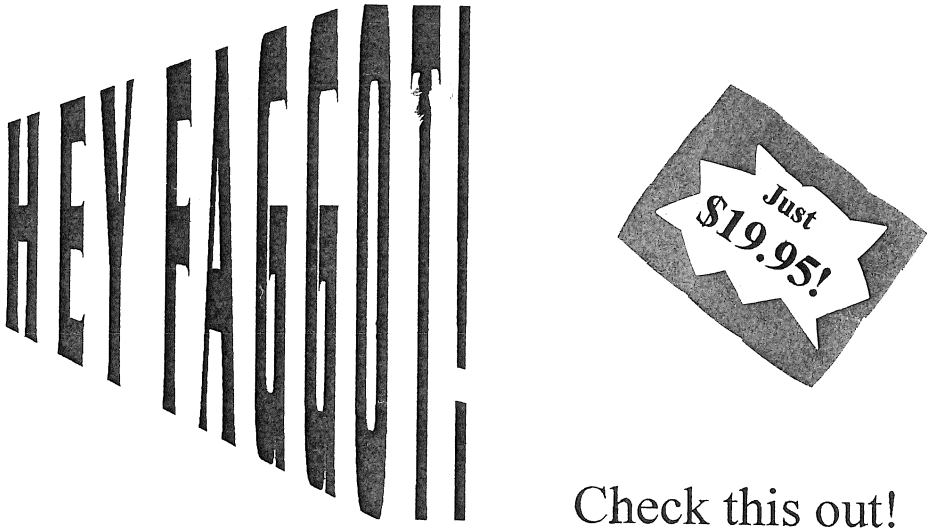
And now I am going to stop directing this at males, because I have seen girls behave rather pathetically too. For example girls who try and win approval from the boys...ie the way they dress, the music they listen to, by pretending that in hardcore, you don't get treated differently because you are a girl. Basically being complacent and going along with everything the guys want you to. That is so fucken WEAK! What are you trying to do, make guys think that all girls have to be complacent to be a 'cool chick'? Fuck that! There are girls I once thought to be cool that totally sicken me now with their changing images, putting up with fucked up boyfriends

and his sexually deprived friends. No self respect at all. It's this that only encourages sexist males to continue being sexist. *If complacent girls exist and just giggle every time a guy makes a crude comment (or maybe even feel flattered) guys think that a girl who has her own opinion is a feminazi, a whinger, a bitch, or just jealous because they don't get a bunch of disgusting, porn loving rednecks drooling over them at shows.*
Nice step for gender equality.

I can even be militant here. Girls like that are the reason that millions of women are subjugated to domestic violence, rape, obscene comments and gestures world wide. *The more women (and men) who are strong enough to speak out against the sexism in society and in hardcore, the more you are helping end the suffering women have had being trodden on, beaten down and objectified.* The more you are complacent, the more you encourage it.

-Jyoti

(Before you say, "oh..what a whinging bitch"..think. If I was one of your macho friends it'd be "he's telling it like it is" and you'd maybe even listen)



Check this out!

It's pretty cool to say "faggot" if you're a totally punk rock dude. It's the new catchphrase in hardcore that is guaranteed to breed oppression and alienation, break down self esteems, and earn you respect as an old school legend.

We at JOCK ANTICS education understand this and realise that if you want to fit into the hardcore scene, it's a necessity to fling insults regarding ones sexuality. That's why we've hired Australia's most renowned homophobic pigs to write the superb classic, "How to sound like a bigot in two weeks". This 215 page manual is not like you're average generic hate propaganda. This is the real macoy! We at JOCK ANTICS education teach the 'in' words, but unlike other educational services we teach you how to set prejudiced roles for genders and sexualities too! We understand also, that most prejudice brings other forms of prejudice, so we have included another chapter for you're destructive reading pleasure, "Kykes, Wogs and niggers".

Don't hesitate, don't be a pc fruit. As we say, "If you don't like it, then you're wrong you fucking delicate little faggot".

But wait..... If this doesn't impress you're mindless consumerist little brain, then look what else we have in stall for you! If you send your $19.95 now, we'll even include the classic, "Girls are sex toys with no worth except to make me come"

DON"T JUST SIT THERE POOFTER! SEND NOW!

BARNEY Ⓔ

WHY?

Is it because you are so insecure with your masculinity

That you prove it by being macho?

The more fights you've had...

The more chicks you 'fuck'...

The more porn you watch...

The more meat you eat...

SO DESPERATE TO FIT IN.

Are you scared that your friends will think you're gay?

So you try to be as 'tough' as possible.

Put women down, keep them in their place

Don't you want them to have their own minds?

Are you scared they will see how pathetic

WHY? You really are?

Do you treat women like pieces of meat?

Are you scared of their strength?

So you take it away the only way you know how.

You oppress the innocent because you're so weak

And their minds are a threat to you.

And you think you're a hero.

You just go along with the crowd. Impress your friends.

Why? Do you hate yourself? Need an ego boost?

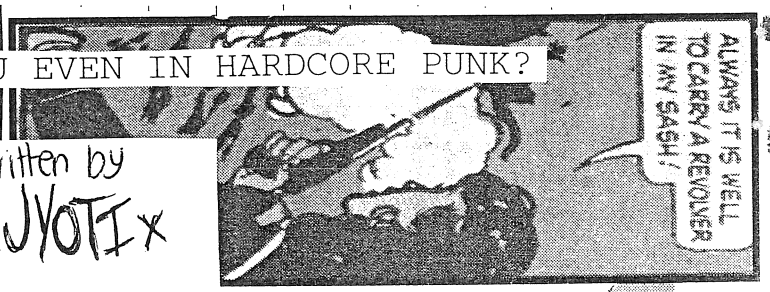
Are you insecure? Impotent?

Pretend you're so punk.

Your conservative ideals were thought of long a

By the KKK, Hitler, religion, right wing redneck wife bashers.

WHY ARE YOU EVEN IN HARDCORE PUNK?



written by

XJYOTIx

POLITICAL CORRECTNESS IS A MYTH

To actively choose to fight the establishment is to have a belief in positive change.

To have a lifestyle alternative to that of the majority of the population is to live with the knowledge that an individual can contribute to the development of a more just society.

To express my views and to live and fight for these beliefs is to take up the challenge and the responsibility that I have as a privileged person (white, middle class). The responsibility to think not in terms of today and myself, but in terms of tomorrow, and of the people who do not have the resources or the opportunities to represent and fight for themselves. For the people who have lived and fought before me, for the people who have suffered and died in any form of oppression.

Social justice is **our** responsibility.

Change is necessary for **every** part of society.

Capitalism encourages division, separating and weakening the struggle for equality and freedom.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEANS NOTHING IF NOTHING IS SAID.

Yesterday, after describing an argument I had in which I firmly expressed my opinion, I was told (by a womyn), that I "just needed a guy - a good fuck".
It was not the first time that I had heard this - what it comes down to is that the strenght of my beliefs and the form in which I express them, is being judged according to by sexual relationships with men. Apparently, if I had a "good fuck", then I wouldn't believe what I do, and I certainly wouldn't express those beliefs loudly and with conviction.

I have also been told to "relax" when standing up for my beliefs, and that "no-one cares", or that "it's not important". No injustice, oppression, dishonesty, exploitation, abuse, or lack of respect is unimportant. If no-one cares about these problems, we can have little pride in calling ourselves humyn.

Fighting for what I believe is not whinging. And I don't need to be fucking a guy to have my beliefs respected.

Christine. cac21@uow.edu.au

Not even a minor threat

When I first started going to hardcore shows I was under the impression it was an awesome place to be: anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-homophobic, anti-everything bad. How wrong can a girl be? **A threat to society?** Get the fuck over yourselves – you're no threat to anyone. The same social atrocities that I came here to get away from are pretty much in my face.

Why am I even writing this? I know I will only be dismissed as a "whinging feminist". In my view the most effective way of stifling an opinion that you don't want heard is to brand a person a "whinger". This is something that my friends and I are used to by now. Following your whinger logic every person who has open their mouths to say something about the hardcore scene is a whinger. Why is it only us girls who won't be listened to - whatever we say you debase and give no credibility. Why are you so threatened by what we have to say? What are you afraid of? Speaking out about something and then (oh no!) being labelled PC by your jock-ass friends? That's pathetic.

So many assumptions have been made about my friends from the start: "lesbians", "feminists" to name a few. Despite what you may think not everyone alligns themselves with feminism. To save yourself the trouble of making things up for yourself I'm a feminist, but that's up to me, what I value.

So here's some stuff which I think needs to be said...

Racism is not the only evil in society

Probably one of the best things about this scene is that everyone seems to lend their support to anti-racist thought which is pretty amazing. But why is it that the same people who are violently opposed to racism give no support to feminism or anti-homophobia?

Racism, sexism and homophobia are all bound by the same things!
hate, ignorance about difference, prejudice

If you are outraged by the assignment of pointless stereotypes on the basis of someone's race then you're a hypocrite if you don't feel the same outrage when it comes to gender or sexual orientation.

Where's your 'fuck sexism' or 'fuck homophobia' badge?

Feminism does not equate to man-hating

Take a look around you. Do you see my friends and I huddled together at a show, separating ourselves from guys, refusing to interact on the basis we feel superior to you? **No.** We have valued and respected friends who are males, boyfriends who are males. If you find feminism, **the advocation of equal human rights for women** somehow threatening then that's your own inferiority complex that you have to deal with – don't look at me.

Pornography

First of all, I find using this term in a general sense is problematic as what might be considered "pornographic" by one person, may mean nothing to another, or deemed "art" by yet another.

I think that the **context in which "pornography" is being viewed or used ultimately affects its meaning.**

What I mean to say is that in the context of watching it at home can be a source of pleasure for both men and women, where people **choose** to watch it, and have **control** over it. In this context I'm into it.

Alternatively, the meaning of it differs when it is brought to a show. That shit is, dare I say it, **political.** Pornography in zines and on set lists is a different ball game. Here people aren't choosing to see this, they are **confronted** by you with it.

If you want your right to enjoy pornography respected than respect the right of those who would rather be left out of the whole thing

– and I don't just mean girls, believe it or not there are guys in the scene who are offended by this.

These are the images (e.g. a spread–eagled, cum sprayed woman) of women that we are confronted with in the hardcore scene. I guess I would almost be offended by these images if I didn't find the representation of the typical "hardcore male", as promoted in zines, flyers, record and CD covers so utterly hilarious.

MUSCLE-BOUND, BASE-BALL BAT YIELDING, HARD AS FUCK MEN!

Have you guys taken a look at yourselves lately? These images of you are about as accurate as your pornographic images of us. This is not to say that girls in hardcore are devoid of sexuality, but **it is our sexuality – it's on our fucking terms, not yours.** To quote a friend – "The guys in hardcore who aren't taken are left over for a reason".

Homophobia

I think that this has been argued best in Arms Reach's song "Homosexual Panic Defence", but I want to add something too. For those who hide behind the fact that gay people use the word "fag" in reference to themselves **wake up!** A derogatory, politically loaded term is only subversive dependent on who says it, on your social background. A gay male who says fag is turning this insult on its head. By claiming the word for himself, by appropriating it , he lessens the insulting impact on him when ignorant fucks like you use it. **A hetero male using the word fag is only reproducing this commonplace insult whether you mean to or not**. It's not hard to figure this out you know.

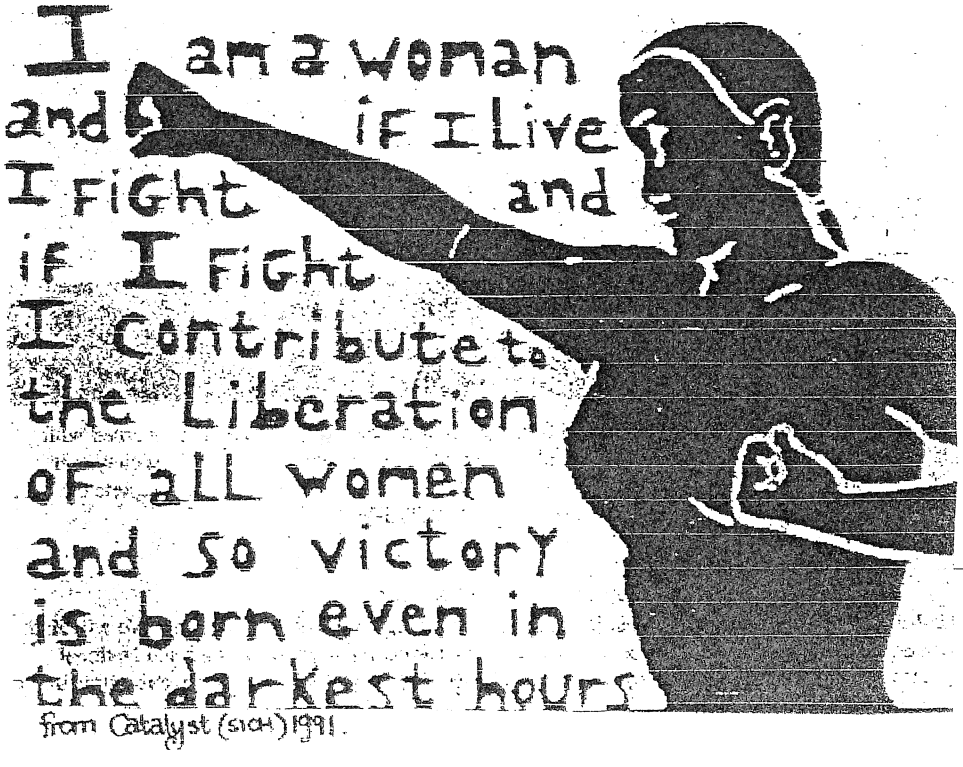
Not even a minor threat

I know that you can't teach an old dog new tricks, and fuck knows there's a lot of old dogs in the hardcore scene. You sing along to, write songs about and celebrate the concept of youth, but you are an insult to the young kids in the scene who aren't jaded, close-minded, prejudiced adults like you. It is these kids who are the real threat to society, they're the ones who aren't afraid to question, re-evaluate, re-think their social conditioning and arrive at their own conclusions, not those of their friends in the 'in crowd', the untouchable **tuff boys club.**

SO FUCK YOU TO THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO ARE LISTENED TO IN THIS SCENE – WHAT A SHAME IT IS THAT YOU'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO HAVE FUCK-ALL TO SAY …….

- Sars sd25@uow.edu.au

Thanks: to the lasses who put this together, dan and barn, the beautiful sink grrrls, my mum and soph's mum, berno, brett everhard, knig joseph, joan, rosemary and shayne, grotface, ani difranco, sporty spice, virginia woolf, anyone who sees how lame it is that we felt the need to put this out…..



'Some people think politeness is an invitation to invade' Alice Walker.

Supposedly it's an 'invitation' when I take my shirt off. Supposedly it's an 'invitation' when I spread my legs. Supposedly it's an 'invitation' when I reveal my body to you in any way. But it's not an 'invitation' when you engage in the same behaviour.

It's supposedly an 'invitation' because I am a womyn. Is it because a womyns sexuality is so powerful that there are so many constraints against me exposing it and acknowledging that power???As a womyn I'm supposed to fear, hide and be ashamed, disgusted by my sexuality, and men are supposed to own me.

When I take my shirt off, when I spread my legs, when I reveal my body it's not an 'invitation'. I am not anyones 'piece'. I am not anyones 'gear'. I am not 'meat'. I am not a possession. I am much more than my body, but this is **my** body and **my** sexuality. You have your own. MICHELLE photo - thanx to Simone

I look in the mirror and I stare, and my reflection stares back at me. A weird sensation, a thought. I am not this body you see before you. As much as I like my little stomach, and my curved back, in no way does it portray who I am.

I should love my body for it is the machine that gives my mind a voice, it is the thing that gives my heart a chance to love, it is the basis of my expression. It is open to praise and criticism. It has the strength to hurt yet the weakness to be killed. It is the function of my life-form, but I am not this body you see before you. I am so much more than eyes could ever see.

KIRSTY

Just Because – Reflections on "Because we're women" by Joyce Stevens – 20 years on

Because a woman's place is wherever she wants it to be.

Because 1 in 4 women are raped, sexually assaulted, or sexually abused before the age of 18.

Because 99% of Domestic Violence victims are women.

Because we still don't have access to adequate contraception or free safe abortion.

Because women who love and fuck women are subjected to discrimination, vilification and abuse.

Because men talk about politics, philosophy, history, and literature, women give 'feminist perspectives.'

Because when an aging white male writes about the past, without mentioning half the population, he's writing history. When I include them, I'm writing women's studies, or 'feminist' theory.

Because women are afraid of their cunts.

Because they hold Right to Life dinners in Parliament House.

Because there's a 30% luxury tax on tampons and pads.

Because the Spice Girls aren't about girl power, and Margaret Thatcher isn't my hero.

Because women don't bleed blue ink.

Because Carmen Lawrence was forced to resign over a petition, but Tony Smith beat on his wife, went to a brothel and supports the Mens Rights Agency, and still kept his job.

Because they won't tell you about your clitoris in sex education.

Because He doesn't stand for She.

Because a supreme court judge questioned the right of lesbians to have children, because there'll be no man to support them, and they'll go on welfare.

Because I am not part of Man or Mankind. I am not a chairman, or a batsman, or a workman, and I will not man a stall.

Because political correctness is a myth.

Because women and girls shouldn't have to be ladies.

Because I love the planet.

Because the world is run by old, rich, white, heterosexual males for each other.

Because men object so strongly to women only spaces.

Because I am more than an object, a symbol, or a role.

Because you can't judge a woman by her breast size or hair colour.

Because vagina means 'sheath' for a male 'sword.'

Because the poorest of the poor are women.

Because I don't want to be 'Smurfette.'

Because we are poorer than men, even in wealthy countries. A quarter of us will never earn enough to pay back our HECS debt.

Because women are trained to keep silent.

Because men talk over women as a matter of course.

Because women make up 95% of sexual harrasment complaints.

Because we say 'women are raped', never 'men rape.'

Because so-called 'Aid' organisations go into poorer countries, and only consult the men.

Because women are objectified and dissected

Because the National Party exists.

Because women are taught to comply, taught to deny, taught to think of others.

Because our political, cultural and economics are designed by men for men.

Because they're still prescribing thalidomide.

Because the average women wears size 14-16 but the shops only stock 8-12.

Because women are taught to disconnect and distrust each oth

Because John Howard thinks he can represent women with his boys own government.

Because we still don't get equal pay for equal work.

Because 8 year olds have eating disorders.

Because men heckle women on the streets.

Because the media is a boys club

Because when I get PMS I don't want to take your pills.

Because of fucking Barbie.

Because things can be better.

Because someone has to stand up and speak out.

Because we can fight it.

Because we need support.

Because we hold up half the sky.

Because we are all so different, and so similar.

Because there is so much to learn from ourselves and each other.

Because we're smashing patriarchy every day in every front, every time we act as independent, thinking human beings.

Because all we need to change it is time and each other.

Alissa Macoun

As a male within this scene, I am part of a majority. However, as a male who realises a openly admits that other males within the scene act in a degrading way to females, I an an extreme minority.

To treat a female as a breathing fuck dispenser is one thing, but to objectify a female t her face when she blatantly feels uncomfortable about it, and feels intimidated by you makes me even more fucking sick.

And what makes this nauseous feeling increase is the fact that a zine would be filled w almost all, if not all males, with the exception of porn star females with x's on their hands. Oh but wait, "it's a joke." It's not funny now, and it never was, and it's the long stretched joke I've ever heard. I wouldn't be surprised if this was a zine written for fat bikie rednecks but wake up fuck face, have you ever seen a bikie at a show?

And these sentiments don't stop at the oppression of females. Gender roles have taken further toll and plagued our "egalitarian" scene with homophobia.

In the prejudiced society that surrounds us, studies have estimated that 1 in 10 people homosexual. Think of how many people frequently or infrequently attend shows. Now think of how many of these people are openly queer. For a movement that claims to distance and remove itself from mainstream society, we aren't even close to being liberated. Whinge and whine about me telling you what to do and think like the "PC fa that I am, but then go and talk about hardcore as a vehicle for the expression of opinio What the fuck do you think we're doing? It seems that there's some subtle peer pressu which leaves me feeling, scared of being mocked for our true opinion. Well fuck that. think for myself.

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I beg you to write. Tell me to fuck off. Tell me I'm a fag. Your mindless insults won't effect me. Try telling me why I'm wrong.

Anyone who has nothing to say, except I agree, your correspondence would be sssooo appreciated.

Thanks to all those who are not afraid to question their learnt values and beliefs, and s "I WAS WRONG."

Humyns are social be-ings. As social be-ings we all need to be accepted. In order to belong, to be accepted, we are expected to conform, to become some non-existent 'normal' person. This non-existent 'normal' person is socially constructed, and changes according to the situation and the role someone is supposed to act out. Generally society accommodates for this non-existent normal person in many ways. This non-existent normal person is male, heterosexual, white, and middle class.

In every situation there are rules and constraints which are generally unwritten, like all rules when they are broken there are punishments. Sometimes we forget to question the rules, who made them, and why they are there in the first place, and the power relations reinforced by these rules, remain unrecognised, accepted, taken for granted.

If we aspire to become the non-existent norm, we make too many harmful sacrifices to be accepted, to belong.

In the Sydney hardcore scene, there is a non-existent normal person, there are rules, that people have constructed to regulate behaviour. These rules are based largely upon stereotypes and myths and they act as fences excluding more than they include.

What does it mean to be 'hardcore'? What does it mean to be 'punk rock'? The unwritten laws say that to be 'hardcore'; we must be 'old skool' ;we must wear camo's (Camo's are fashion too); we must own certain records; we must like certain bands; we must be tough; we must never express any emotion apart from anger; we must be violent; we must dance a certain way; we must watch porn. As grrrls we must be defined in terms of our relationships with boys in the scene; we must be hetero; we must wear boys clothes, we must be silent.

To be 'hardcore' we must not be 'new skool'; we must not wear backpacks; we must not cry; we must not respect the space of others; we must not boycott pubshows; we must not be politically correct; we must not be hardline; we must not have a life outside of hardcore; we must not be feminists. As grrrls we must not challenge any facets of our oppression. We must not have opinions. We must not have our own sexuality.

To be truly 'hardcore' we must be white, middle class, heterosexual and male. To be truly 'hardcore' we must have a penis.

These are only a few of the permissions and prohibitions. And what is the punishment when one deviates from the 'musts' and 'must nots'?? Empty threats. Ostracism. Name calling (behind ones back of course). Silencing. Labelling people as fruits, whingers, lesbians, communists, feminazis and so on. Getting sent scrotums in the mail, and a general disrespect for you as a person.

Most of the 'isms' still exist in hardcore and are a part of what it means to be 'hardcore' (In Sydney anyway). And instead of finding acceptance from a scene that boasts acceptance, people find rejection.

This inability to accept and grow from difference, stagnates, suffocates, and has pushed many good and genuinely beautiful people away.

Sometimes I wonder how certain 'Hardcore' kids treat people outside of the scene when they treat each other so badly. Just because we disagree about things does not mean that we have to destroy each other.

To accept ourselves we need to accept each other. To accept each other we need to accept ourselves.

'You do not have to be me in order for us to fight alongside each other. I do not have to be you to recognise that our wars are the same. What we must do is commit ourselves to some future that can include each other and to work toward that future with the particular strengths of our individual identities. And in order to do this we must allow each other our differences at the same time as we recognise our sameness.' [Audre Lorde, **Sister Outsider**.]

We are all humyn first, that is our sameness, accepting a good person despite their differences involves refusing to accept all the 'isms', not only one. A good person is a good person regardless of their ethnicity; their gender; their sexuality; their age; their religion; their physical capacities; the clothes they wear; and whether or not they choose to drink.

'It is better to be hated for what we are, then to be liked for what we are not.♀MICHELLE♀

I'd like to thank everyone who contributed for their effort and creativity. EDYS. My friends, my family. Everyone who can cry and is not afraid to admit it. And you for reading. My contribution is dedicated to everyone who has fought back, and taken back control of their own lives.

Michelle Jury
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MORE THAN A JOKE. I SPY

WELL its about time to stop this tide of violence against women. build a new model. Tear down the other by refusing to follow. WE'RE here standing up against years of tradition. WE'RE beginning to see. they've been lying.
WE CAN LEARN ALOT from each other by talking and listening. WE challenge the way you talk. Is that the way you think we can't stand your Degradation. only a joke? WELL These jokes hurt and make people feel like shit. If thats it, why would you want to be a part of it? where do you fit in on this cycle of oppression? Time for a change.

The same attitudes.
The same techniques.
The same words.
The potential for the same actions.
Different minds.
Competing.
Competing to win one point more.
Who can get the furthest?
Who can boost their ego?
How far will it go? Michelle

Hardcore
Punk Rock.
Yet you choose the most mainstream industry in society to support.
Pornography
Hardcore.
Punk Rock
Yet you choose the most mainstream myth to believe, and use it to label and silence those who challenge your thoughts.

Anti-P.C
Viewing porn and being so Anti-P C is not subversion its just Another method of conformity
Michelle.

When we were on tour, people would tell us they loved our band, loved our message, they would think they were on the cutting edge of anti-racism, anti-authority, etc, and then they'd say things like "I wanna get me some shaved pussy" (that's an exact quote, sadly enough). What the fuck? It made me sick. Where do women fit into the plan? I guess we have to keep saying it again and again: we won't stand for your degradation of people. We hate to see people hurt and feeling bad. We hate to see people being used or being treated badly. I don't know what's wrong, but macho-man bullshit runs rampant everywhere. Why does it make some men feel stronger to hurt and cut down women? The "all girls suck" or "all men suck" thing is stupid too. Don't buy into it.

He fit in so well with you all, because he thinks just like you, he treated grrrls like you try and perhaps have fantasies about treating them. He got away with it too many times with too many grrrls because he was 'nice'. **NOTHING** was said about it, until he went too far, he always went too far, but this time he went too far with the **WRONG** person. There is a pattern, a pattern that is being repeated. MICHELLE.

The news today spoke of a lady being covered in petrol and being set alight by her husband. I was disgusted and angry, but unfortunately was not shocked or surprised.

Domestic violence is the highest cause of death among murdered wimmin. Yet it remains a taboo topic, rarely spoken about by abusers or victims.

I can not express my outrage at those individuals in our society, who pass domestic violence off by saying 'Oh, why doesn't the womyn just leave?' Not only is this an approach of ignorance it is a typical case of blaming the victim. Taking the responsibility **off** the male and placing it **on** the female. Could this issue really be so black and white? I hardly think so.

Let's take into consideration the situation the womyn must be in. Relying financially upon the man, intimidated, threatened. What would he do to her if she did leave? What about the kids?

The chances of the womyn feeling stable enough to make the break are pretty unlikely, this isn't even taking into consideration the emotional strength involved. Self-esteem and confidence of victims are at an all time low. So don't tell me the womyn should just leave.

No one likes to be beaten, raped, and abused. She does not love him, she is scared of him. The word is **fear** not 'stupidity'. When will these people wake up to themselves and look at the wider picture? Think about the words you speak.

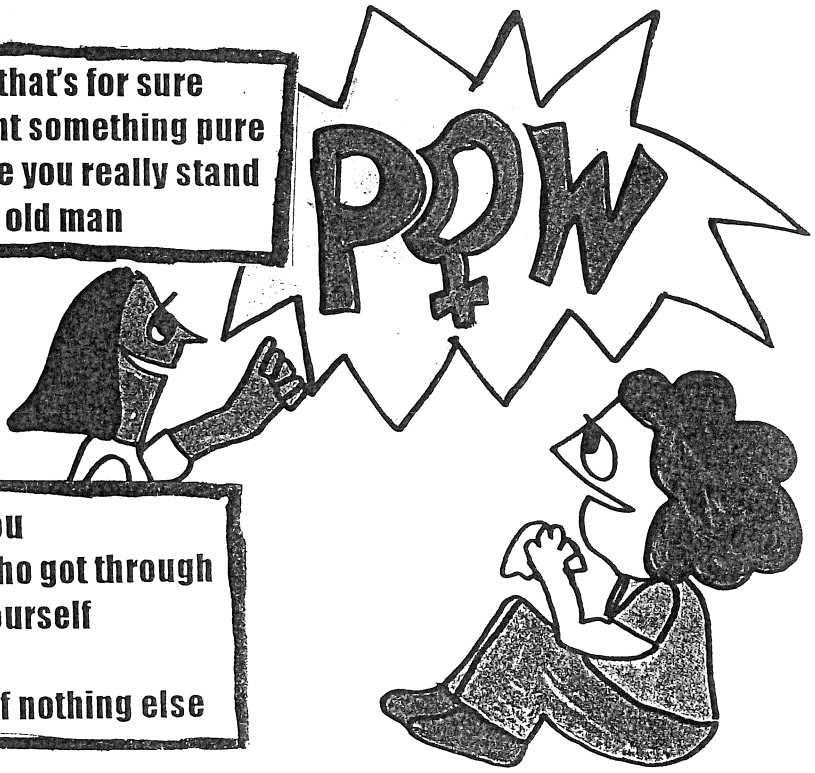
KIRSTY

Dirty old man

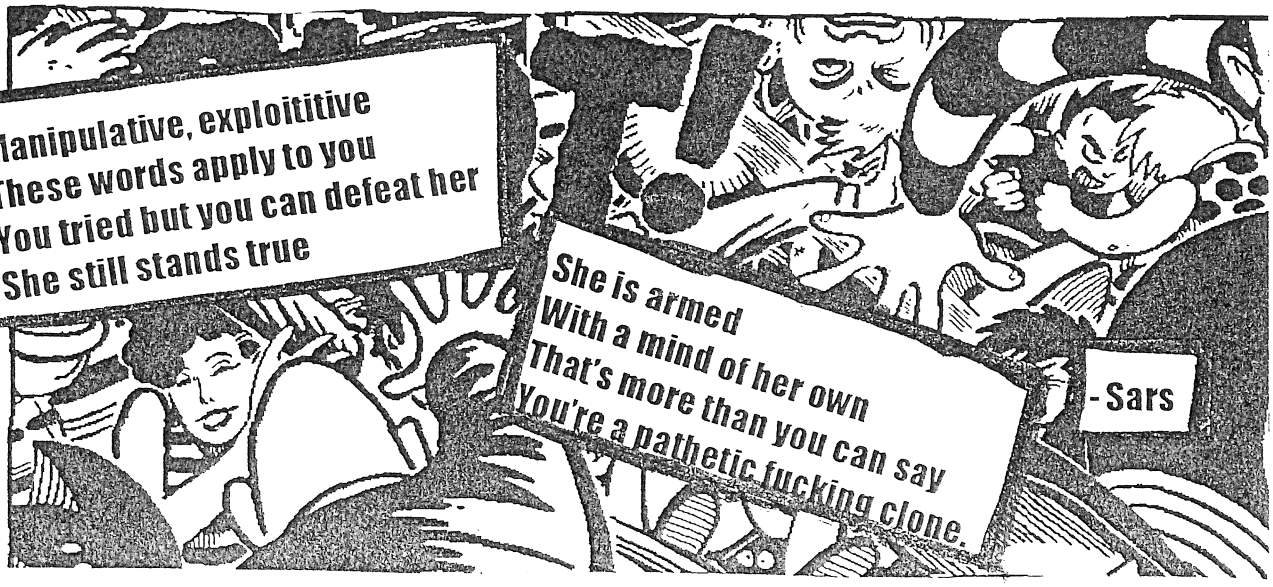
It takes a big man
To pick on someone weak
It takes a huge man
To play hide-and-seek

Confidence betrayed
Will never be restored
Was it really worth it?
Did you get your reward?

We all have weaknesses that's for sure
All you wanted was to taint something pure
Your actions reveal where you really stand
You're nothing but a dirty old man



You condemn the one who violated you
He penetrated the surface -the one who got through
Take a step back and take a look at yourself
You're just the same as him
Take responsibility for your actions, if nothing else



Manipulative, exploitive
These words apply to you
You tried but you can defeat her
She still stands true

She is armed
With a mind of her own
That's more than you can say
You're a pathetic fucking clone.

- Sars

Rape is not only physical. It is emotional in its abuse and trauma. The rape of women, men and children has been used for centuries as individuals exerting dominance, power and control over another individual. Usually the people who rape have no power or control over themselves so they exert it over others in the crudest way possible.

Rape is not only physical. A person can be raped without being sexually abused. Emotional rape happens just as much as physical rape…yet the person who has been raped in this way has a harder time proving it because their wounds are internal.

1 in 4 women have been raped (sexually abused). And that's only the one's who speak out. Look at your female friends. 1 in 4. So what about **emotional rape**? Probably a lot higher. 2 in 4? 3 in 4?

Emotional rape is more common because people get away with it because there is rarely physical evidence.

And a lot of people accept it. It's the girls who take it the wrong way. They 'can't take a joke'. Well, where do you draw the line?

Basically, a woman being turned into a sexual object, making obscene gestures to or about them, displaying pornographic images, saying sexually explicit things about them against their will is emotional rape.

Everyone is so quick to condemn rapists… you think they are sick in the head and would want them dead if they did it to anyone you knew. Well, look at some of the emotional trauma women face everyday. *They suffer just as much.* And some of it is at the hands of people in our supposedly enlightened hardcore scene!! And people let it happen!

It is no better than physical rape because it is using a women's body and sexuality against her will for your own pleasure. IT IS NOT A JOKE.

1 in 4. How high does it need to go before you realise why us women are screaming at the top of our lungs for your understanding?

X jyoti X

74 GLADSTONE AVE
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UP FRONT

yet another nsw hardcore zine supplement

FEMINSIM, SEXISM, AND ALL THAT WHINGING LESBIAN BULLSHIT

I was speaking to a group of the best friends I have and will ever hope to have the other day and they expressed to me their feelings on being a girl in the new south wales hardcore scene. I was shocked to hear some of the things I heard that day - what is supposed to be the best scene in Australia is in fact full of bigoted retards whose thoughts were as primitive and uneducated as any football yob. What makes their thoughts worse is that they are suppposed to be more intelligent but their lack of insight and thought shows that they are no better.

"All feminists are whinging lesbians". I hate to break into your quiet little world but I happen to be male and aspire to feminism. The only reason I don't call myself a feminist is because feminism seems to implicate only females. I label myself a humanist. I believe in equal rights for all human beings, whether they be black, white, old, young and most importantly boy, girl. I am certainly not a lesbian and even if I were homosexual would this make my opinion less important? I have heard homosexuality used as a derogaratory term many times, especially within hardcore punk, a scene where heterosexuality is NORMAL (the same as society). Fuck that.

As a male I take offence to the attitudes and blatantly sexist actions by people around me, in social settings such as school, but I take more offence that an educated underground scene like hardcore has not only tolerance but acceptance of sexism as a 'normal' thing.

Examples-

"Do you have many pieces at your school?" 'Pieces' referring to beautiful girls. What a redneck expression!

"I like it when girls come to shows wearing tight tops." Treating women like objects is more backward than the majority of social settings. Since I was a kid I've been taught not to think like that. I look at females and see a person, a friend, and not a pair of breasts.

"Pussy whipped". This entire expression is totally fucked. I've been brought up to aspire to feminism, and it isn't my friends who have molded me into thinking the way I do.

In a workplace such comments would earn you a sexual harrasment charge. In hardcore it earns you a slap on the back, a smile / grin and a shrug of acceptance "Oh-it's-only-boys". I'm a boy. I do not think like you. My brain is in my head and not between my legs.

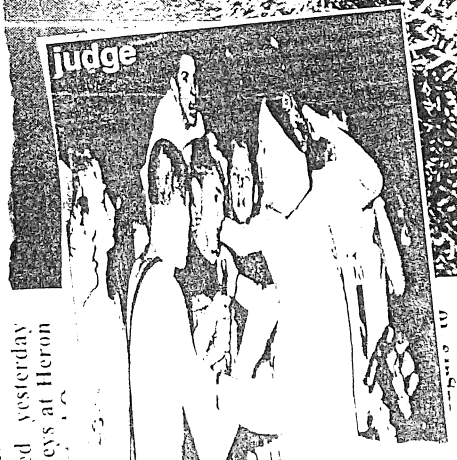
1. You do not have to have a penis do dance, singalong or have fun at shows.
2. You do not have to have a penis to be my friend.
3. If you have breasts you shouldn't be treated like an object.
4. If you have a penis or breasts and treat women like objects, get the fuck out of hardcore because the message is twice as important as any band. Go back to the pub, footy match etc.
5. You don't have to have breasts to agree with equal rights. (I can already hear you saying "equal rights deserves equal hits" or some other redneck response).
6. I am not Politically Correct, but I think people going out to be totally Politically Incorrect is a bit try hard-ish and nonsensicle. How about you just try to make a change?

There should be no brotherhood. There should be no sisterhood. One big united crew of friends on equal terms, whether you're a boy or a girl, is something worth fighting for. Sexism has no place in hardcore punk and whether you are a boy or a girl, aspiration to feminism is nothing to be ashamed of.

NO ISSUE

I'll call on my brothers and my sisters too
when it comes to friendship sex is no issue
no need for anyone to play gender roles
equal society - humanist goal
Don't have to be female to aspire to feminism
all that burns is hate for social sexism
not about dykes or holding back in the pit
If you're going to judge something understand it!
boys and girls togteher in a unified crew
sexual taste or use of drugs - they aren't an issue
you can't judge gender form the flame in my heart
join us now and be a part.....
OF OUR BROTHERHOOD!
OF OUR SISTERHOOD!
OF OUR YOUTH CREW!
GO!
SEX IS NO ISSUE TO ME!

lyrics by DAN for THE PACT, 1998



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NO APOLOGIES

I THINK BACK TO THE THINGS I'VE SAID
AND I THOUGHT THAT I WAS RIGHT AT THE TIME
I LOOK BACK AT THE THINGS I'VE DONE
IN TIMES WHEN COMPASSION WAS SO HARD TO FIND
NOW I'M STRONGER. SO MUCH STRONGER
AND I'LL CONFRONT MYSELF
I'LL LIVE AND LEARN AND LOVE IT
I'M NOT AFRAID TO CHANGE MYSELF

NO APOLOGIES. AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
I DON'T NEED YOU TO POINT OUT MY MISTAKES
YOU'RE SO RIGHTEOUS. YOU'RE SO HIGH UP
BUT WHO PUT YOU THERE. NOT ME

IT'S SO FUNNY. YOU THINK I CARE
ABOUT YOUR IDEAS OF RIGHT AND WRONG
I GOT MUSIC AND I GOT FRIENDS
WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT
THIS IS WHERE I BELONG

IT'S EASY. SO EASY
TO SIT BACK AND TELL ME THAT I FUCKED UP
YOU TELLING STORIES
I'M TALKING THE TRUTH
I GAVE YOU TOO MUCH CREDIT
I THOUGHT YOU'D LISTEN

NEVER OPENED MY MOUTH. BUT YOU DREW A CONCLUSION
FROM WHAT YOU HEARD
YOU THINK IT'S FUNNY? I THINK IT'S SAD
YOU FEEL YOUR JOB IN LIFE IS TO DISTORT MY WORDS

BLACK ROSE
ANARCHIST LIBRARY

I understand this zine may be quite controversial , in parts, I may even be crossing the line. I make No Apologies though, because I am sure you will excuse me by saying 'That's just Kirsty' or 'I guess it was all just a big joke gone wrong' Thank you for being so diplomatic. I love you all.